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1917 FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ISSUE.
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THE MORALS OF MR.
PIPSQUEAK.

(BY A JUNIOR OFFICER.)

The morals of Temporary Second-Lieutenants just now engage some public attention. It is not exclusively "Mr. Pip-Squeak" who has come under the severely motherly eye of the War Office and of various private philanthropic agencies who would have us all dull and good (and if we cannot be both we can be the one at least); it is also the temporary lieutenant and other temporary officers of more exalted grade, and also to their intense disgust, permanent officers, who profess to understand why the "temporary" shall be the victim of sumptuary regulation, but not the "pukka commission" man. All these officers agree that it is the wickedness of the temporary second lieutenant (otherwise Mr. Pip-Squeak) that has caused all the trouble; but none see a hope that authority will recognise this view and make out-of-bounds rules, convoluted internment regulations, and the like apply only to the most junior officers. So the rain of rules falls on the just and the unjust alike, and some of the just are worth the systematic attempt to grapple with it alone now. Indeed, the present methods of conduct of the war are such as to remove the causes of the trouble, which is a legacy of the early days of the war, when commissions were issued with a too generous faith in human nature, and the result that many rotters were given the uniform of officers (though they could never be gentlemen), and an even greater number of weaklings who broke down under their new dignity because they had not the support of the old safeguards.

The dignity of the position of a British officer in the old Regular Army was officer was remarkable. His officer's rank gave him the confidence of his banker, of his tradesmen, of society generally. To set a British officer in uniform with doubtful company or under doubtful circumstances was almost unknown. The tradition of the officer class was jealously guarded by the system of training. When at last, having got his commission, Mr. Pip-Squeak reported to his regiment in the old days he found himself still very much in a leading string. Until he had won six months' standing his safest attitude even in Mess was that of "don't speak unless you are spoken to." Justice he could expect from his brother officers, and sympathy, too, but the sympathy was tempered by severe snubbing to restrain any tendencies to effervescence. Above all things, he was trained to respect his uniform, and as he had generally the right to wear multi when off duty this high respect was more than in war time when uniform has to be almost constantly worn.

With the first recruiting of the New Armies commissions were freely issued to men with no training, and in some cases with no tradition. For a little while a bewildered public did not appreciate the change, and bankers, tradesmen, hosts had some unhappy experiences. But what may be called the commercial aspect of the question was soon set right. Officers' rank ceased to give credit rights. Socially the readjustment was far less easy. The War Office has at last been compelled to assist that process of readjustment with various restrictive orders, which have roused sentiment in some quarters, but the necessity of which is recognised probably by most.

We have been asking for it, commented one officer, grudgingly when the latest of the regulations was published. And without a doubt we have been asking for it—that is to say, the conduct of some officers has made us merely advisable but necessary a degree of motherly (or grandmotherly) supervision. Exhortation preceded regulation by many months. I can recall—so long ago now that the war then was not a full year old—an impressive scene on the barrack square of the town of (somewhere in England). Mr. Pip-Squeak had been exceptionally quaint in his ways, and obedient to his Divisional Commander, the Colonel of his Brigade, had ordered a full parade of subalterns mounted, in drill order. He was a fine horseman that Colonel (he had been a Territorial officer and a great fox-hunter), and the true delight of his eye was to see his subalterns in full array doing sword salutes. We took rank, dressed, waited, expecting sword drill. But the Colonel reined up his proud charger sharply and began:

"Subaltern officers of the Brigade—Division, Royal Field Artillery."

Then he caught sight of the present deponent, first file of the little troop. Now I know I was a sore vexation to that Colonel, who had gone out of his way to be very civil to me personally, but could not forgive me my incurable lack of grace in the sword salute. Nevertheless he was a just man and kindly, and he remembered at the moment that I was the venerable father of a family. He stopped.

"Fall out, Mr. —."

I fell out. I want to point out, Mr. —, that nothing I am going to say now applies to you. Then he went on to speak of the scandals that had arisen in the town from the conduct of young officers. The particular offence that had filled authority with special bitterness was a habit more than one subaltern had of careering along the sea-front on motor-bikes, with baggage perched on the back carrier—not baggage, but baggage, persons who can be most accurately described by the mis-spelling "lyrics."

It was a bad quarter of an hour for me, singled out thus as being either too bad or too good to be lectured on decorum (under neither implication is human man).

(Continued at foot of next column.)

WORD RATIONS.

"CONTROLLER" NEEDED FOR
WEATHER TALKERS.

(BY TWELVE BREN.)

It is high time that the Government appointed a Ministry of Inevitable to tell people what to say about the weather, when to say it, and how much to say of it.

Some people think that they are entitled to say what they like and whenever they choose to say it. They maintain that free speech is a safety-valve, that it is keeping the people from hibernation, emigration, sabotage, homicide, and epilepsy. Other people contend that the only salvation of the country lies in the Government either at once making weather-talk an offence against the realm or putting up all upon weather-word rations, allowing only so many scheduled remarks daily per head of the population, with extra rations to allotment-holders.

The word-ration agitators argue that our physical, financial, and agricultural losses caused by the weather are slight and temporary compared with the daily degeneracy brought about by this daily habit of the whole community exhorting themselves by constant reiteration of the atrociousness of the weather. Those who demand word-rations say that the standard of public propriety is being debased, and that men of respected position are using language in railway trains and other public places that they once would never have dreamed of using except in the privacy of their homes and offices and to their wives or employes.

It was only this week, indeed, that a sergeant-major of our forces returned to barracks suffering from "word shock" contracted from a civilian in a railway compartment.

We at least look to the Government for a plain railing upon one disputed and horribly muddled issue. Are we to talk about the weather, or are we to remain silent? Most of us are doing the first to undoubted excess. A few of us are doing the second to a like excess that is even more destructive of self-respect, health, and sanity.

In the train one morning I made a remark about the weather to a stranger with a cough who helped me to clear from the seats a snowdrift that had come through the ventilator. It was a very ordinary remark, but the man turned on me like a tiger. "Good heavens," he cried, "didn't I bid enough to endure it, to live through it, without people talking about it?"

The stranger alighted, an acquaintance, a friend. Having learnt my lesson, I said nothing about the weather. My acquaintance seated himself, pulled his fur collar higher over his ears, stamped his feet, blew upon his hands, wiped the April tears from his rheumy eyes, sneezed four times, and asked, "Well, what do you think about it?"

"Isn't it best to say nothing?" I answered.

This man also turned on me like a tiger. He accused me of callousness, "pose," hypocrisy, and unpatriotism. He asked me if I would like to see his coal bill. When he had finished with me he started upon the weather. The only other occupant of the compartment was a seaman. At Clapham Junction the seaman observed that he had come off the North Sea and thought that he knew something about weather-talk, but that he felt faint and thought that he had better change carriages.

What are we to do? The only thing that we agreed upon is what we would like to do to the people who say that April, 1897, was worse.—Daily Mail.

content to lie); and it was a curious revelation of what could be possible in the breach of a great tradition. A year before the necessity of such a lecture could not be imagined. At the present day, when the brake has been put on, and commissions are only granted after some service of a cadet term of training, no one can no longer hope to become officers. But a few of the bad type survive and many survive of the type which is not fit to be out of leading strings. Hence stringent regulations, which offend the dignity of some.

I do not think it is correct to say that a "milk-and-honey" standard is aimed at, and to disbelieve the rumour that at the Hotel Central, which is now the Prince of Wales' Convalescent Hospital, for Officers, leave is only given to go out to Mothers' Meetings, Sewing Circles, and High Teas in Freshytries. It is recognised that boys will be boys. But, to explain with another convenient mis-spelling, when some boys are evidently determined to be "b-boys," then it is time for parents to be parents; and the War Office is in this case in loco parentis. The whole trouble—trouble is perhaps too strong a word—the whole annoyance has come from the institution into commissioned rank during the early stages of the war of some rotters and weaklings. Those who have survived cashiering are concentrated mostly in London and other big Home Camps, for it is part of their rotting to avoid the front as far as possible, and when they do get out they usually come back quickly, either on the orders of their disgraced C.O. or invalided with some recent melody of the nerves. The force at the front is a very Cavalier army with the sobriety of the one and the gaiety of the other type. Practically all the dark sheep are quartered in the Home paddock, and though it is a pity that authority in dealing with them has to seem to cast a slur on others, it is a necessary pity. The individual can forget his grievances in the thought that after all it is easy for him to show that he is an officer and a gentleman.—Morning Post.

ENGLISHMAN IN THE RUSSIAN
REVOLUTION.THE PUBLIC'S REVENGE ON
THE POLICE.

Mr. Stinton Jones, of the firm of Merritt & Jones, consulting engineers, of Petrograd, arrived in London on April 6th. He was the first Englishman to arrive from Petrograd and describe the revolution as an eye-witness.

Towards the end of January, he said, news of what the police were doing leaked out through certain friends of his connected with the old revolutionary party. Some were being trained in the use of machine guns, many of which had been erected on churches and tall buildings throughout the city. Through the police most of the foodstuffs were "cornered" and huge supplies stored in various quarters, with the result that although the city was full of food all prices rose to ten or fifteen times the normal.

The people became hungry and mutinous. "Butter," which before the revolution was 7d. per lb., had now soared to 7s. 6d., cheese and ham increased from 1s. 3d. to 6s., and sugar and white flour were practically unobtainable. The old gang were working energetically for a separate peace; meanwhile the lower classes were being urged by the police to clamour for food, and if they could not get it to break out into open revolt.

POLICE ARSENALS.

On February 27th the machine guns on the churches and public buildings were supplied with ammunition. When the people asked why they were told that these were precautions against expected raids from new long-distance Zeppelins. All the police offices were stocked with small arms and ammunition. On March 6th striking began; on the 7th all the textile workers were out, and on the 8th the strikers swarmed through the streets crying, "Give us Bread." Among the crowds moved agents of the police disguised as workmen urging the strikers to make further disturbance. There were violent scenes outside the Kazan Cathedral and wild speeches were made.

Ordinarily the speakers would have been instantly arrested, but now the police stood by and laughed encouragement. The Nevsky Prospekt was swarming with demonstrators who were more hitherto than threatening. An order was given to the Cossacks to ride through the crowd and break them up. The Cossacks came out on the gallop, but were their wonderful horses in and out of the crowd, and instead of using their whips on the revolutionaries waved them in the air—and the crowds cheered enthusiastically.

The next day was fairly quiet, apart from a few window-smashing crusades and some shooting on the part of the police. An order was given that no wounded people were to be taken to any of the hospitals and no dead to the mortuaries.

COSSACKS TURN.

On Sunday, March 11th, great processions streamed through the city and thousands marched towards the Winter Palace. The demonstrations, beginning good-humouredly, ended in bloodshed. At noon the police fired several volleys into the crowd on the Nevsky Prospekt and in the thoroughfares crossing it. Again and again the Cossacks rode through the press, managing their horses with great delicacy and minding nobody. Detachments of other soldiers were called out and ordered to fire on the crowds. Point-blank they refused, but the police were in a very savage mood and there was a good deal of indiscriminate firing. There is not the slightest doubt that the ringleaders of the demonstrators were police in disguise. By midnight the crowds had dispersed, all the main avenues and bridges were closely guarded, and a feeling of general unrest and anxiety was rife everywhere.

On Monday, March 12th, the storm burst. Early in the morning huge crowds gathered in all districts and marched to the bridges. Here they were stopped by the police and the soldiers, and nobody without a special pass was allowed to enter the city. Still, in the city itself thousands of residents and those who had remained throughout the night formed processions and made their way by various routes to the Small Arms Factory and Arsenal.

As early as ten o'clock machine guns perched on high buildings and in attics opened fire upon the crowds. The police freely used their rifles and revolvers, but the soldiers, who were ordered to join in, flatly refused. They threw in their lot with the crowd and mingling among them, assisted them in attacking the Small Arms Factory, smashed through the police cordon, and broke into the Arsenal. In a few minutes they had a tremendous store of arms—machine-guns, rifles, revolvers, and thousands of rounds of ammunition. The soldier revolutionaries formed themselves into machine-gun detachments, issuing out into the streets with belts of ammunition hanging round their necks. Every policeman they saw they shot down. Their own officers they arrested, depriving them of their arms. If they showed signs of resistance they were shot.

BURNING THE ARCHIVES.

The crowds were howling for revenge on the police. Hordes of young men, grotesquely armed, dashed through the throng, shooting and hacking. Some had new swords slung at their waists, some brandished them, others carried bayonets fixed on poles or walking sticks; others again, with a revolver in each hand, fired roundabout or in the air until their cartridges were exhausted. The Arsenal having been cleared and set fire to, the mob turned to the Courts of Justice and the Detention Prison adjoining. It was full both of victims of

the reactionaries and of criminals awaiting trial. The prison guards were killed, the great doors smashed open, and the wondering prisoners released. The building itself was set on fire, and the prisoners, given arms, were ordered to join the mob. They required no second bidding.

Among them was one old political prisoner. Waving a revolver in the air, he led the crowds to the Courts of Justice, bidding them set fire to the section that contained the records of himself and his fellow-revolutionaries. But the burning did not stop here. The flames spread, the place was gutted, and the archives were destroyed. Huge piles of books and documents were set ablaze: for three days the cellars were a glowing furnace, for masses of papers, packed as these were, burn slowly. Even on the third day people crowded round the scorched and frameless windows, warming their hands at the glow.

RAPLESS POLICE DISGUISES.

Meanwhile smaller crowds detached from the main party set forth on organized raids on their own account, led by the soldiers whom they now hailed as "brothers" and "comrades." Every policeman they saw was shot or struck down with sword and bayonet. Every police station was stormed, swept of its contents, every document was burnt, all the stores of ammunition were taken, the hoarded food supplies commandeered, and the building burnt. Police hunting was the order of the day; these unhappy conspirators sought escape disguised as women, workmen, nursemaids, and even as soldiers. But few escaped.

In the streets now the crowds were waving red flags, singing revolutionary songs, smashing windows, and, as was natural, in part, getting out of hand. Fighting was still going on; some streets were strewn with the dead and the dying. All vehicular traffic had been stopped; but the leaders of the mob commanded every motor-car they could get, armed it with a machine-gun and a gun crew, and set it careering through the streets, firing in some cases indiscriminately. Motor lorries were used for the same purpose. The churches, hospitals, and other public buildings were opened for the reception of the dead and wounded; but strict orders were given that policemen killed or wounded, were to lie where they fell. The same order applied to dead and wounded officers.

All through the night the city was aglow with fires and discordant with cries. By midnight practically the whole mass of official documents had been destroyed. At street corners people warmed themselves at the bonfires. Even the chemists' shops had been looted for eau de Cologne, methylated spirit, and other fiery stuff. There were wild orgies in some quarters.

BRITISH IN A HOT SPOT.

The Astoria hotel—the "War Hotel," as it is known—was among the buildings attacked. This hotel was reserved for officers—native and foreign. Everybody was ordered to come out and surrender. There was a bloody night in the hall. The foreign officers were unarmed, and about 20 British stayed until the very last to shield the women. They did not leave until the mob threatened to raze the place to the ground. Finally the furniture was smashed and the wine cellars rifled. The Russian officers were placed under arrest, disarmed, and brought out into the street, where some were shot.

Fighting was still proceeding on Wednesday, but the organization of the revolutionary committee was already beginning to make itself felt. Notices were posted all over the city asking the people to be quiet and to refrain from looting; a number of the criminals who had been released were reinterred, and arrangements were made for the issue of a daily paper. The large quantities of food hoarded up by the police were distributed at rational prices, and on Friday the banks opened for a couple of hours. This had a very calming effect.

A bitter blizzard on Saturday drove everybody out of the streets, and on Sunday the city had practically resumed its normal state.

WORKERS' WAGES DOUBLED.

When the mills and the factories reopened the revolution was the workers' opportunity. Instantly they took it. They all demanded a universal eight-hour day and an increase of wages—running up from half as much again to thrice the former pay. They insisted upon the discharge of all the old foremen and masters of departments, electing their own nominees in their places. They further insisted upon all the masters having the same food as the men and receiving only a certain percentage of the profits. On this new "revolutionary" scale the daily wages in one textile factory (British) were more than doubled. Domestic servants, chauffeurs, bank clerks, and other held mass meetings in the cinema halls and presented ultimatums to their employers. The domestic servants insisted upon an eight-hour day and a minimum wage of 24 a month (£1 to £1 10s. is the usual wage). The servants also insisted upon being allowed one day a month being set apart in the house for the entertainment of their friends.

ANGLO-SPANISH COMMERCIAL
CONVENTION.

It is satisfactory to note in regard to a country where there was a large pro-German element, that following a special mission of Marquis Cortina to the British Government in connection with Anglo-Spanish commerce, a Commercial Convention between the two countries has been signed. Arrangements have been made whereby the British Government will supply Spain with 150,000 tons of coal monthly, and in return Spain will export to England as much ore as is required. The Spanish Government agrees, under the new convention, to allow the chartering of Spanish ships by the British Government. An agreement has also been reached by which Spain will export a certain proportion of oranges to England.

THE HO MUN TIN SYNDICATE.

KA RIM DIN ON TRIAL.

At the Hongkong Criminal Sessions yesterday, Ka Rim Din, a contractor, of 132, Portland Street, was charged with the fraudulent appropriation of \$2,250, monies entrusted to him by a Chinese married woman named Lai Wai Sun, for the purpose of purchasing certain lots of lands in the Ho Mun Tin Syndicate.

Mr. Orme, of the Attorney-General's Department, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Crown, Mr. F. C. Jenkin, instructed by Mr. Mattingley, defended.

Mr. Orme, in outlining the case on behalf of the plaintiff, stated that in 1914 a syndicate was mooted, and eventually started, with the idea of purchasing land at Yaumati for the formation of a Portuguese Colony. Mr. F. P. de V. Soares initiated the scheme. Subsequently it was found that there was not sufficient money to go on with the scheme, and certain people were invited to take up lots of land. Defendant, who had been endeavouring to become contractor to the syndicate, got into touch with the plaintiff, and she decided to take up a couple of lots. The defendant took the woman to see Mr. Soares, and while there she paid over a sum of \$200 as a deposit on lot 36. Later the woman went with the defendant to see Mr. Gittens, who was acting as secretary to the syndicate, and she paid another deposit of \$200 in respect of another lot of land. After paying these deposits, the balance remaining to complete the purchase was \$2,500, and it was agreed that the purchase should be completed within three months. Towards the end of this period Ka Rim Din went to see the woman, and after what he told her she paid over to him the balance of the purchase money. The woman asked the defendant for the title deeds on more than one occasion, but he always put her off with a remark to the effect that it was all right. The plaintiff went to see her solicitor, but she failed to get any satisfaction from the defendant and then a warrant was issued for the arrest of the defendant. At first there was no success with the warrant, but eventually he was arrested, tried at the Magistrate's Court, and committed to take his trial at the Criminal Sessions. The prosecution alleged that the defendant did not utilise the \$2,500 for the purpose for which it was handed to him.

The defence is that the lots are in the defendant's possession, and that the plaintiff can have them when she so desires.

In the witness-box, Mr. Soares, replying to Mr. Jenkin, said that he knew nothing about the books of the Syndicate.

Mr. Jenkin—Was there any record of the Syndicate?—There was a committee.

Witness added that he knew nothing of the transaction with which the defendant was concerned except the fact that \$200 were paid over in his office.

Did that take place at the Syndicate's office?—No, at my office.

Where is your office?—I mean in the P. & O. office, where I was employed at the time.

In reply to the judge, the witness stated that he did not look upon the promoter of the Syndicate as being responsible for the \$2,000 odd dollars to the purchaser of the lots.

The plaintiff, while being cross-examined by the judge, mentioned that she had borrowed \$1,000 from two other ladies to help her raise the sum for the purchase money. The remainder was made up of dowry money. She had not yet paid the \$1,000 back. Plaintiff added—I hope to be able to do that with what I shall get out of this case.

The Chief Justice—Tell the lady that she will not get any money out of this case. What she is really trying to do in this case is to get the defendant sent to prison.

Plaintiff—Am I not going to get any money out of it?

The Chief Justice—Tell her I am afraid not.

The hearing was adjourned.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 2nd June is as follows—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate for 22 weeks.
This Year	\$13,533	\$289,360
Last Year	12,720	297,581
Increase	813	
Decrease		8,222

SPORT.

SHOOTING.

AMERICAN MARKSMEN DEFEAT POLICE RESERVES.

A friendly contest took place at Stonecutters Range on Saturday afternoon between teams of 8 men representing U.S.S.—and H.K.P.R. for a cup subscribed for by each team. The conditions were deliberate firing at 200, 500, and 600 yards, Bisley targets, 1 sighter and 7 rounds at each range. The sailors won by 54 points. The scores were as follows:

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
Bosun's Mate Milburn	31	26	29	86
Ch. Bosun's Mate Cass	27	32	26	85
Seaman Budura	27	27	30	84
Sergt. Durrant	25	30	27	82
Cox. Wiser	28	28	25	81
Carpenter's Mate Wall	26	28	19	73
Seaman Dunlap	26	19	26	71
Gunner's Mate Cunningham	20	23	22	65
Less 4 per cent. deduction for aperture sights				637
Net Total				602

H.K.P.R.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
Mr. Franks	26	30	29	85
Sergt. Relf	27	27	27	81
O. I. Sirdar Khan	23	27	21	71
Insp. McEwen	22	23	26	71
Sgt.-Maj. Roylance	22	23	20	65
Mr. Jenkin	29	23	9	61
Sergt. Fisher	25	22	11	58
C. I. Chichester	22	24	9	55
Less 4 per cent. deduction for aperture sights				3
Net Total				548

BOXING.

Seaman Brown, whose challenge has been accepted by Ahearn, is now in strict training, and he can be seen going through his paces at the Royal Naval Canteen theatre any evening between 5 and 7 o'clock.

The following challenges have been issued, at the weights indicated, by Australian sailors:—W. Isaacs, 9-12; A. Higgs, 11-10; E. Bilsten, 10-2; G. Hunt, 7-12; A. Burns, 11-6; A. Boyd, 10-7.

"SERVICES" ENTERTAINMENT FUND.

ESTIMATED SUM REQUIRED MONTHLY \$500.

The following subscriptions to the above fund were received by the Treasurer during the week ending 31st May, 1917, and are gratefully acknowledged—

Already acknowledged	\$ 25.00
C. T. Hall	100.00
"Ken" Hall	5.00
Redding	10.00
F. T. K.	10.00
C. D. M. F.	10.00
C. Thorne	10.00
Portuguese Club—Cable Office	10.00
E. E. Telegraph—European Staff	18.00
Balance from Men's Club	94.65
A. O. Lang	50.00
Bandman Opera Co. and Mr. Chung Ling Soo	102.75
S. H. Dodwell	25.00
Wiseman, Ltd.	5.00
E. W. P.	15.00
A. & F. M.	20.00
A. Denison	5.00
A. G. Hewitt	5.00
J. E. Stoneman	2.00
J. Hooper	5.00
E. Irving	3.00
C. L. Cooper-Hunt, C.F.	2.00
N. J. Stabb	20.00
Total receipts during May	\$554.40
Deficiency on estimate for month of May	45.60

* Monthly subscription.
\$ Donation.

T. Robinson (General Secretary).

C. L. Cooper-Hunt, C.F. (Treasurer).

Hongkong, 6th June, 1917.

MEN'S CLUB.

Friends of the Men's Club (Seamen's Institute) are hereby informed that, as the activities of the Men's Club come under the idea of the "Services" Entertainment Fund, it has been decided to transfer the balance of \$94.65 standing to the credit of the Men's Club to the credit of the "Services" Entertainment Fund. Donations to the "Services" Entertainment Fund may, however, be earmarked "Men's Club" and will be devoted entirely to the activities which concern that organization.

C. L. Cooper-Hunt, C.F. (Vice-Pres. and Treas. Men's Club).

CANTON NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

CANTON, June 4th.

MAGISTRATES AND PRISONERS.

It is reported that some Magistrates, when handing over their districts to their successors, are in the habit of releasing prisoners in return for a "squeeze." In order to check this bad practice, the Civil Governor has issued instructions that when magistrates in various districts are handing over their duties to their successors they may not release any prisoners who are awaiting sentence. They may only liberate those whose term of imprisonment is practically completed.

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW TUGBOAT.

Chan Ping Kwan, new Military Governor of Canton, arrived at Shek Wei Tong from Sam Shui by a special train on the 29th ult. He was met at the Railway Station by the Civil Governor, the Acting Military Governor Tam Ho Ming and other high officials, with whom he proceeded by the cruiser *Po Pek* to Canton.

It is said that Chan Ping Kwan intended to go to Peking in order to consult the President in regard to the political situation in Canton, but he has now abandoned this idea because he has received a telegram from Anhui and Chekiang stating that they have declared independence.

Tam Ho Ming, Acting Military Governor of Canton, has decided to pay a visit to Hongkong and Macao before he takes up his new appointment at Kwangsi.

GENERAL LUNG CHAI KWONG.

General Lung Chai Kwong has recently addressed a telegram to Peking, announcing his intention to proceed to Peking for the purpose of offering some important suggestions with reference to the political situation in Canton and China. The President has, however, refused his offer.

THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY AND THE REVOLT.

The Provincial Assembly has sent a telegram to Peking and various Provinces, stating that the declaration of independence by the Chekiang and Anhui Provinces is absolutely contrary to law, and urging the Government to take steps to punish those responsible.

The Provincial Assembly invited the new Military Governor, Chan Ping Kwan; the Acting Military Governor, Tam Ho Ming; and the Civil Governor, Chu Hing Lan, to their meeting on the 31st ult. Their Excellencies spoke about the political situation of China and the financial condition of Canton, and denounced the movement of the Anhui and Chekiang Provinces as illegal, promising their best endeavours to help the Central Government.

THE N.D.L. COMPANY.

AMALGAMATION SCHEME.

Herr Achelis has resigned the presidency of the Norddeutscher Lloyd Shipping Co. because of his disagreement with the other directors regarding Government compensation for ships confiscated by America. The Government offered a total of \$15,000,000, of which \$5,000,000 was to be allotted to the Norddeutscher Lloyd Co. Herr Achelis demanded \$10,000,000.

It is believed that the company will now join the Hamburg-Amerika line, under Herr Ballin, with a view to the completion of a huge Austro-German shipping trust. Herr Achelis opposes the amalgamation, which the Kaiser is instigating.

Of the North German Lloyd fleet the largest vessel is the *Columbus*, 35,000 tons. Other big steamers of the line are the *George Washington*, 25,570 tons; *Kronprinzessin Cecilie*, 19,503 tons; *Kaiser Wilhelm II.*, 13,361 tons; *Zeppelin*, 15,200 tons. The fleet consists of 120 vessels, ranging from 100 tons up to 35,000 tons.

The Hamburg-Amerika line consists of a fleet of 163 steamers, including some of the largest vessels afloat. The *Bismarck*, a turbine steamer built in 1914, has a gross tonnage of 36,000. Other large steamers of this line are the *Amerika*, 23,622 tons; *Cincinnati*, 16,339 tons; *Cleveland*, 16,960 tons; *Imperator* (turbine), 51,999 tons; *Kaiserin Augusta Victoria*, 18,072 tons; *Tirpitz*, 19,300 tons; *Vaterland* (now commanded by the U.S.), 54,292 tons; and the *Victoria Louise*, 16,703 tons.

FURIOUS PONY RIDING.

PORTUGUESE CHARGED.

A Portuguese named Wilmer, was charged at the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday with furiously riding a horse along Kennedy Road on May 30th, at 6.10 p.m.

An Indian constable said he saw defendant and another man on horses come along Kennedy Road, at a terrific rate. He put up his hand for them to stop, but they ignored him and continued. A little later they returned and once more he put up his hand to stop them. Both men dismounted when they had got a little way past. He followed them and when he was getting close up, the other man jumped on his pony and galloped away, the defendant trying to do the same. Witness stopped him, and as there seemed to be some misunderstanding about defendant giving his name, he was taken to the Police Station.

Defendant said that he and a man named Rocha were on horseback at the time stated. He was trying to teach Rocha to ride. All went well, however, until a couple of dogs barked at the horses, and Rocha's mount broke away and bolted. Defendant tried to pull it up, but could not do so, so he galloped after Rocha and stopped his horse. They were on their way back when Rocha's horse once more bolted. The Indian put up his hand and he stopped as soon as he could, but Rocha carried right on.

Mr. Dyer Ball said he believed that defendant had tried to prevent an accident, but Kennedy Road was not the place to learn how to ride a horse. This time he would not record a conviction, but he wished it to be understood that this case was to be a caution.

THE CHANNEL FIGHT.

THE EXPLOITS OF THE "BROKE."

Midshipman Gyles, the hero of the destroyer *Broke* in the Channel fight, interviewed in hospital, said:

"I was asleep when the enemy was sighted. All hands were called to action stations. The first of the enemy's shells killed several of the crew. I was wounded in the right eye and momentarily stunned, but picked myself up, mopped away the blood with my coat sleeves, and ran to the guns.

"I found five of the men alive. Seaman Ingleson, whose gun was out of action, came to my help. He loaded the port gun. I loaded the starboard gun.

"Meanwhile, several Germans boarded us, yelling like mad all the time for mercy, and shouting other things we couldn't understand. When they got on the deck they attempted to attack us. I pointed my revolver, but a burly German—a regular giant—gripped the weapon until petty-officer Woodfield hit him on the face. The German attempted to run, but Seaman Ingleson put a cuff across his back. We tumbled him over the side.

"We then cleared the decks of all Germans, killing those who intercepted us and making the rest prisoners."

Midshipman Gyles went on to describe the torpedoing of a German destroyer, and the ramming of another when the *Broke* was hit in the boiler-room, and drifted helpless.

The King sent his congratulations to the commanders of the *Swift* and *Broke*.

IN THE STOKES.

Chief Petty Officer Tom Davies, a survivor of the *Fortune*, which went down in the naval fight off Jutland, interviewed, said:—"I was in the *Broke's* stokehold, and was precluded from actually witnessing Commander Evans' finely fought engagement, but I gathered the full details first-hand. We were quietly steaming at 14 knots when we were signalled 'Full speed.' We leapt forward to 27 knots, and soon heard shells dropping overhead, and knew we were in action. A naval battle gives a man in the stokehold an uneasy feeling. He knows so little of what is happening, yet feels so much that minutes seem hours. A big bump announced our ramming the enemy. I sent up two hands to see what was going on. They returned with the welcome news that we were fighting the Germans, and winning."

GERMAN TREACHERY.

Davies added:—"It was a trying time for us in the stokehold, owing to the possibility of a shell crashing in on us. But there was no creaking and no wavering. We worked on ceaselessly. Suddenly a cheer went up. We had won. Afterwards we heard how the fight had progressed, how Commander Evans had out-manoeuvred the Germans, and how we destroyed their ships. Our casualties were light, and were mainly caused by a shell crashing aft of the stokehold. This was due to the treachery of a German destroyer, coming along apparently in distress, and seemingly ready to surrender. She fired into the *Broke's* stokehold, but paid a dear price. She was immediately torpedoed and sank. I believe all hands were sorry."

A man releasing a torpedo was almost simultaneously killed, a shell fragment shattering his head, but he had performed a gallant service.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

ALL SIZES IN MEN'S

BATHING SUITS

WITH SKIRTS, WITH OR WITHOUT SLEEVES,

From \$3.00 Each.

A.S.A. SWIMMING SUITS

IN NAVY AND BLACK, ALL SIZES \$2.00 EACH.

NON-ACTINIC AERTEX CELLULAR

GOLF SHIRTS



UNDERVESTS

WITH COLLAR AND POCKET

HALF-SLEEVES

THE USE OF RED GARMENTS IN THE TROPICS.

It has been definitely proved by the medical profession that the sun's rays in the Tropics act very forcibly, but that it is the blue rays (known scientifically as the actinic) which produce sunstroke, and the red rays (known as the non-actinic rays) do not have any harmful effect. Heat alone is not injurious, as is evidenced by the fact that persons can stand high temperatures in Turkish baths, and stokers stay for days in boiler-rooms, without injurious effect, but heat together with strong sunshine often result in disaster.

THE CELLULAR Co. have therefore produced a specially-dyed red AERTEX fabric which is not a bluish-red, but is so carefully selected as to colour that only the red and orange rays are allowed to act on the body.

RECOMMENDED TO ALL OUTDOOR SPORTSMEN AS A

PREVENTATIVE FROM SUNBURN.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

A.V.C. FINEST OLD LIQUEUR BRANDY.

GUARANTEED 30 YEARS OLD.

V. D. CLARETS. V. D. SAUTERNES.

V. D. BURGUNDIES.

Stocked by HONGKONG HOTEL.

Obtainable at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

A. & B. MACKAY'S LIQUEUR WHISKY.

THE ORIGINAL LIQUEUR WHISKY.

PRICE \$24.00 PER CASE DUTY PAID.

Has a fine mild flavour and a refreshing clean taste.

Obtainable at all Local Stores.

and at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

[467-3]

Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 548

SPECIAL NOTICE.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED.

A FEW CHEAP LINES

— IN —

LADIES' WHITE SHOES

\$4.50 \$5.00 \$6.50 PER PAIR.

VERY SPECIAL PRICES.

[469]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE

DURING the absence of Mr. P. S. SCOTT, Secretary for the Colony, Mr. D. H. TE WELCH will be in charge of the Control Office of our Company.

HOLLAND CHINA TRADING CO.
Hongkong, 5th June, 1917. [72]

THEATRE ROYAL.
HONGKONG.

FOR THREE NIGHTS ONLY,
JUNE 12TH, 13TH AND 14TH.

FAREWELL VISIT.

MAURICE E. BANDMAN
Presents

THE
BANDMAN OPERA CO.
(1917).

In the following London Successes:

Tues. June 12th. "THE HAPPY DAY,"
From Daly's Theatre.

Wed. June 13th. "THE MERRY
WIDOW."

Thurs. June 14th. "THE GIRL IN
THE TAXI."

Booking at MOUTRIE'S.
PRICES AS USUAL.
COMMENCING AT 8.15 P.M.

NOTICE

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER

ARCHIE WONGWAI, expert mechanic from his factory, Dayton, Ohio, is now in charge of the Cash Register business in Southern China.

AMERICAN TRADING CO.,
General Agents,
HONGKONG & CO., LTD.,
Representatives,
144, Des Voeux Road Central,
Hongkong. [656]

G. T. R.
NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

RUSSIAN 5% INTERNAL LIBERTY LOAN 1917.

Subscription to the LIBERTY LOAN is opened at THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, Hongkong, from date to the 26th June, 1917.

The price of issue is 85 per cent.

The Loan is free of Income Tax and other impositions.

The Loan is issued for 55 years and will be redeemable at par by yearly drawings beginning in December, 1922.

The Loan may be reimbursed at par after the 29th March, 1927.

Coupons are payable half-yearly on the 15th March and the 29th September.

Interest on the loan runs from the 29th March, 1917—interest from that date to be added to the price of issue.

Special favourable rates will be quoted for Russian Exchange.

Applications will be wired to Petrograd free of telegraphic charges and Bonds will be forwarded free of postal expenses.

The Bank is ready to give every facility to subscribers in the shape of advances against the Bonds.

G. TIRDAI,
Manager. [609]

WANTED.

LADY (Semi-invalid) arriving in Colony at end of June requires furnished Room with Board, preferably in vicinity of University.

Apply—Care of "Daily Press" Office. [723]

WANTED—IMMEDIATELY.

SECOND OFFICER.
Apply—MARINE DEPARTMENT,
THE ASIATIC PETROLEUM CO. (SOUTH CHINA),
LTD. [719]

WANTED.

OFFICE at the Central Location.
Apply to—**FURUKAWA & Co.,**
20, Des Voeux Road Central. [703]

AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidators of Messrs. JAMES & CO. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government to sell by public auction at 12 o'clock (Noon) on **TUESDAY**, the 31st day of July, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, **THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY** situate at The Park, Hongkong, and being **RURAL BUILDING LOT No. 19**.

The Property Consists of:—
The piece or parcel of ground and premises known as "Lyabolt," 104, The Peak, situate near Mount Gough, in the Colony of Hongkong, with an area of 184,033 square feet and registered in the Land Office as Rural Building Lot No. 19.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 75 years created therein by an Indenture of Crown Lease dated the 23rd day of April, 1898.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$35.00.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to
Messrs. WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors for the Liquidators,
or to the Undersigned,
GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer. [597]

PUBLIC AUCTION

BY direction of the Government of Hongkong, Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

On **MONDAY**, the 13th day of August, 1917, at 3 P.M., at their Sales Room, 100, House Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

The Following **VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY** situate at Victoria, Hongkong, viz:—

All **THOSE** pieces or parcels of ground situate at Victoria aforesaid and known and registered in the Land Office as **SECTION A OF MARINE LOT NO. 101** and **SECTION B OF MARINE LOT NO. 101**. Together with the messuages, erections and buildings and buildings thereon known as No. 7, Queen's Road Central, Victoria aforesaid. Term 99 years created by a Crown Lease dated the 8th day of April, 1896.

Area in respect of Section "A" of Marine Lot No. 101—8445 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$84.45.

Area in respect of Section "B" of Marine Lot No. 101—875 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$67.75.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to—

JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,
Principals, Buildings,
100, House Street, Hongkong,
Solicitors for the Liquidator of
THE DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,
The Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1917. [619]

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. WILKINSON & CO. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government to sell by public auction at 12 o'clock (Noon) on **MONDAY**, the 27th day of August, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, Hongkong,

All the piece of ground situate at Yau-mai, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong, and registered in the Land Office as **KOWLOON INLAND LOT No. 299**.

The property consists of a piece of ground situate on Battery Street and Fourth Street (near the Plaza) in Kowloon and contains an area of 4,500 square feet.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 75 years created therein by an Indenture of Crown Lease dated the 4th day of May, 1898.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$80.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to

Messrs. HASTINGS & HASTINGS,
Solicitors for the Liquidator,
or to the Undersigned,
GEO. P. LAMBERT,

Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917. [698]

FOR SALE

USED ASIATIC POSTAGE STAMPS

in packet of

100 Stamps for \$0.80 350 Stamps for \$3.00

200 " " 2.50 400 " " 10.00

250 " " 4.00 450 " " 12.00

300 " " 6.00 500 " " 15.00

GRACA & CO.,

No. 4 WYNDHAM STREET,
Hongkong.

464

VISITORS TO CANTON

Should Peruse

"FROM HONGKONG TO CANTON
BY THE PEARL RIVER."

By

Captain C. V. LLOYD.

With Illustrations, Maps and Plans.

PRICE \$1.75

On Sale at—

Hongkong: "Daily Press" Office.

Messrs. KELLY & WALKER, Ltd.

Messrs. BRYCE & Co.

Canton: Messrs. A. S. WATSON & Co.

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET

FURNISHED FLAT, Tregunter Mansions, May Road, for 2 months from the middle of June.

Apply—**HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co.** [720]

TO LET

SHOP to let in Alexandra Buildings.

Apply to—**SECRETARY**
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd. [709]

TO LET

NOS. 3 A & B ROBINSON ROAD

Apply to—**DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.** [628]

TO LET

"ARDSHAL," No. 119, THE PEAK,
newly done up.

Apply—**CHATER & MOBY,**
5, Queen's Road Central. [614]

TO LET

1 NEW HOUSE in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation. Also 1 **GODOWN** in Duddell Street.

For rent and other particulars apply to—**E. M. H. TEMAZEE,**
1, Des Voeux Road. [402]

TO LET

IMMEDIATE entry. Two very desirable **SHOPS** situated in 100 House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to—**THE MANAGER,**
Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.,
46, Connaught Road Central. [401]

TO LET

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

A **FLAT** in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 (411 sq. ft. area) 8000 sq. ft. suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns.

Apply to—**HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.**
Alexandra Buildings. [638]

TO LET

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

OFFICES in King's and Yau Buildings.

HOUSES in Chitton Gardens, Conduit Road.

HOUSES in Broadwood and Merceon Terraces.

HOUSES at Shamshu, Canton.

Apply to—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.** [52]

TO LET

NO. 12 BEACONSFIELD ARCADE SHOP.

No. 2 **MERLIN**, No. 5, THE PEAK.

No. 7, **HELLIOS TERRACE.**

4-ROOMED **FLAT** at the Peak (separate entrance).

No. 2, "FAIRVIEW," 3, Nathan Road.

KELLEY CREST, 66, PEAK.

No. 28, **BELLIOS TERRACE**, with entrance on Conduit Road.

TWO GODOWNS, in Duddell Street.

No. 2, **DES VOEUX VILLAS**, 51, PEAK (unfurnished).

Apply to—**LINSTEAD & DAVIS**
2nd Floor, Alexandra Buildings. [30]

ON SALE

A TALK OF THE

RATES OF EXCHANGE

AT HONGKONG

FOR

DEMAND DRAFTS ON BOMBAY

On the Day preceding the Departure of the English Mails from the Year of the Closing of the Indian Mails to the Free Coinage of Silver.

FROM 1883 TO 1893;

ALSO

RATES FOR SOVEREIGNS, GOLD LEAF, BAR SILVER (From 1890), and other Useful Information.

PRICE \$1.00.

On Sale at the "Daily Press" Office or Local Booksellers.

INTIMATION

WATSON'S

OLD BROWN

BRANDY

E

QUALITY.



25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 616.

[12]

DEATH.

STONE—At Tokyo, on the 3rd inst., **WILLIAM HENRY STONE, M.I.T.E.**, Foreign Secretary, Imperial Department of Communications, in his 80th year—R.I.P. [727]

Hongkong Office: 104, Des Voeux Road, C.
London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.

The Daily Press

HONGKONG, 6TH JUNE, 1917.

"DAMAGED GOODS."

It is a strange coincidence that while the military authorities have introduced into the British Empire a Press censorship which would never have been tolerated in normal times the Stage has gained a great victory in the matter of the censorship of plays. Playgoers and dramatists have long complained of the restrictions imposed upon them. Permission to stage a play was withheld in a most arbitrary manner. Recently, however, a drama has been produced in London that would certainly have been banned a few years ago. It deals with a subject which, though it has been brought very prominently to the notice of the public during the last decade, is not a pleasant one. Novels have been written around it, sermons have been preached about it, and a Royal Commission has recently made a report upon it. The subject is usually referred to as "the hidden plague," and the play in which the terrible effect of the disease is portrayed is called "Damaged Goods."

It is by the famous French dramatist, **BREUX**, and has been presented to crowded houses in London. In time it will probably reach Hongkong. It is described as a play with a great moral purpose. Before the curtain rises the following words are addressed to the audience about the play:—"It contains no scene to provoke scandal or arouse disgust, nor is there in it any obscene word, unless we must believe that folly and ignorance are necessary conditions of female virtue." There can be no doubt, however, from the various descriptions given by the critics that the great moral lesson is taught by the aid

of tragedy and harrowing incidents. Knowledge, it is true, is always better than ignorance, but most of us find that there is plenty to depress us in the ordinary affairs of life, and we fancy that, in the end, a really wholesome and amusing comedy like "Charley's Aunt" will prove more popular than problem-plays or plays with a moral.

It is clear to anyone who studies current literature that the war is changing the outlook of our best writers. "There is a stirring in the dry bones of fiction," says one critic, and it is evident that the old type of novel has been buried among the debris in Flanders. "Mr. Britling Sees It Through" gave us a glimpse of the great change, and now a nephew of Mr. McKenna has written a stimulating novel, entitled "Sonia," full of a passionate vision of life and an impatient scorn of the world which has passed. It is the story of thousands of women who have suffered through the war. The war broke and bruised "SONIA," and made her a real woman. Her old notions of "having a good time" every day of her life and of indulging in selfish luxury vanished. The great crisis through which we are passing has shaken individuals, just as it has shaken Empires. It has utterly transformed our ideas about politics and future legislation. Beyond everything else, it has affected the position of women in the British Empire. The work which has been done in the munition factories and elsewhere during this time of stress has led many old opponents of female suffrage like Mr. Asquith to acknowledge cheerfully that women have now earned the right to vote. That is a remarkable event in Parliamentary history.

It is, perhaps, too much to say that the much-discussed play, "Damaged Goods," is one of the fruits of the war, because the leaders of the women's suffrage movement and other reformers had previously directed public attention to the widespread misery caused by "the hidden plague." For many decades people seem to have accepted it as inevitable that the sins of the parents should be visited upon the children even unto the third and fourth generation. Medical science has, however, done its utmost to alleviate suffering, irrespective of its origin. We do not now accept the Oriental outlook, which is simply fatalism. The desire of most people is to do whatever may be possible to check the ravages of disease.

It has been said by one very brilliant writer on the seamy side of London life that good wages for women are the best safeguard against the social evil. In the future we may expect to see all the influence of the women's leaders brought to bear in favour of securing higher remuneration for their working sisters. We would not, in any way, seek to discourage earnest reformers, so long as their efforts are carefully thought out and give promise of being practical. Much mischief is caused by presenting only the sentimental side of the problem. Such a close student of human affairs as **LECKY** told us that "The Eternal Priestess" will always remain in any society, unless human nature is utterly changed. In the East the Asiatics regard these matters differently. The Christians claim that Christ was the greatest friend of woman, and the story of the Magdalen is often used as an illustration of His sympathy with the fallen. Certainly Confucius mistrusted the fair sex, and other Eastern teachers have not been too complimentary in their references to it. But even the East is changing, though perhaps slowly, and all Orientals do not hold the same view as their fathers held in regard to the position of women.

The Bandman Opera Co. are announced to pay a farewell visit to the Colony for three nights only, beginning on the 12th inst.

The subscriptions to the next investment of the Hongkong and South China War Savings Association will close to-day (Wednesday) at 4 p.m.

Surgeon-General Sir William Taylor, who died recently, in his 74th year, was a distinguished medical officer. During his career he saw a great deal of active service; on the North-West Frontier, in Burma, on the Gold Coast and in the Sudan. In the war between China and Japan he acted as medical attaché to the Japanese Army.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$50 to the Netherlands Hospital Extension by "Anonymous."

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals:—Mrs. Wilson, Melbourne, \$25; T. Arnot, \$10.

During the week ended June 2nd there were two cases of plague, both fatal; and three cases of enteric fever, two of which were fatal, notified in the Colony. All of them occurred amongst the Chinese.

The late Mr. W. H. Stone, adviser to the Japanese Department of Communications, whose death at the age of 80 is announced by cable, had been in the service of the Japanese Government for nearly fifty years, and was the last of the Foreign Advisers. He was the father of Mr. P. E. F. Stone, of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

GREETINGS FROM MACAO.

The following telegrams have passed between H. E. the Officer Administering the Government of Macao and H. E. the Governor of Hongkong:—

4th June, 1917.

His Excellency the Governor,

Hongkong.

I have the honour to tender Your Excellency in the name of the Colony of Macao sincere congratulations on the occasion of the anniversary of the birthday of His Majesty the King and Emperor—Officer Administering the Government.

5th June, 1917.

His Excellency The Officer Administering the Government,

Macao.

I have the honour to acknowledge Your Excellency's telegram of yesterday's date and to convey to Your Excellency the sincere appreciation of myself and of the Colony of Hongkong of your felicitations on the occasion of the anniversary of the birthday of King George the Fifth—May.

ALLEGED MOTHER MURDER

At the Hongkong Police Court yesterday a Chinese was charged with murdering his adopted mother at Tsun Wan. The woman was found killed in her house, with very severe wounds on the jaw and ear. A blood-stained chopper was found. The accused subsequently first went to the deceased's brother, saying that his mother had fallen down and killed herself.

Dr. Macfarlane, Government Bacteriologist, spoke to examining a quantity of blood-stained clothing and other articles. Human blood stains were found.

Dr. McKenny said he examined the prisoner in Victoria Gaol, and found certain marks on his hands and arms. The hearing was adjourned.

"WARE THE FAN THIEF."

A Chinese who had successfully practised the fan-stealing trick was charged before Mr. Dyer at the Hongkong Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Detective Sergt. Cockle explained the ruse adopted by fan thieves, who were very busy at this time of the year. The fan had been purchased by a woman, defendant got to know of this, and then went to call upon her, representing himself to be from the shop where she had purchased the fan. The man explained to the woman that the fan had not been properly repaired, and that he would have to take it back to the shop for examination. He was handed the fan, but did not return on the day stated. Subsequently the woman went to the shop and there discovered that she had been made the victim of a very old ruse. The master of the shop said the defendant was not employed there, and that the fan was in good repair when it was sent out.

The defendant, who served a term of imprisonment last year for a similar offence, was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

THE WAR.

GERMANS TERRIBLY SHELLED ON BRITISH FRONT.

BOMB ATTACKS ON BELGIUM COAST.

POLISH ARMY CREATED.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

GENERAL WARFARE.

LONDON, June 4th.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We carried out raids northward of Armentieres and southward of Wytschaete, and captured 37 prisoners.

There was considerable mutual artillery firing southward of Gouzenecourt and in the neighbourhood of Vimy Ridge.

In the Ypres sector our aeroplanes on Saturday night obtained hits on four enemy trains, one of which was completely destroyed. We brought down seven German aeroplanes. Four of ours are missing.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMANS TERRIBLY SHELLED.

LONDON, June 4th.
According to Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters, 112 prisoners were taken from three regiments in yesterday's counter-attacks to the south of Souchez, in which the enemy employed over a division, as they were under the concentrated fire of our batteries which had their positions registered to a nicety. Their losses must have been very heavy. The Canadians, who were driven back from the electric station, suffered from our guns razing the buildings and rendering them shelterless. Nevertheless, they fell back slowly fighting hard.

To-day the Germans are being terribly shelled.

POST RECAPTURED.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig in a report says:—We recaptured the post lost during Saturday night south-west of Cherisy.

We repulsed night raids south-west of Le Bassee and in the neighbourhood of Neuve Chapelle.

We entered the enemy's trenches east of Vermelles.

FRENCH FRONT.

ENEMY ATTACK.

PARIS, June 4th.
A communiqué says:—The artillery duel became violent last night to the north-west of Froimont Farm.

An enemy attack shortly before ten o'clock on a salient of our line gained a footing in some of our advanced elements.

After their bloody defeat of yesterday, the Germans have not renewed attempts in the Vauclerc and California plateaux, but have confined themselves to a fairly lively bombardment of our trenches.

Nine enemy aeroplanes and a captive balloon have been brought down. The occupants of three aeroplanes, including three officers, have been captured.

Enemy aeroplanes bombed Nancy and Dunkirk. There were several civilian victims at Dunkirk.

ARTILLERY DUEL.

PARIS, June 5th.
A communiqué states:—The artillery duel was most active in the region west of Braye-en-Laonnois and more eastwardly in the sector of Craonne-Chestraux. Our front lines were intermittently bombarded.

Aerial Activities.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BOMB ATTACK ON BRUGES.

ENEMY NESTS ATTACKED.

LONDON, June 5th.
The raid on Bruges is the fourth attack upon enemy submarine and aeroplane nests in Belgium.

It is officially reported that since Thursday Dutch Correspondents speak of constant Allied Naval air raids upon the Belgian Coast, the sky being illuminated for miles by bursting shells and terrific explosions of bombs.

EARLIER CABLES.

LONDON, June 4th.
According to an Admiralty announcement, the Commodore at Dunkirk carried out a bomb attack last night on Bruges Dock and Canal with good results.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RENEWED ATTACKS BY RUSSIANS.

LONDON, June 4th.
A Russian official wireless message states:—Our scouts, surmounting four rows of wire entanglements at New Mossor, in the direction of Kovel, dispersed a barrier guard.

We penetrated entanglements and drove out the enemy from trenches in the region of Penvi, in the Carpathians.

Italian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN FRONT.

ROME, June 4th.
An official message states:—Enemy artillery became more intense to the east of Gorizia, and extended from Vertobozza to the coast. It was particularly violent at San Marco, upon the Dosso and Fatti lines, and to the east of Floridar. We replied, effectively stopping attacks.

Enemy attacks penetrated the western slopes of San Marco, but our reinforcements severely drove the attackers back.

General.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SPIES ARRESTED IN AMERICA.

NEW YORK, June 5th.
Four arrests for conspiracy to transmit military and navy information to Germany, including advance news of the sailing of destroyers towards Great Britain, include a German and a Swede. All were released on heavy bail.

AUTONOMOUS POLISH ARMY.

PARIS, June 5th.
A Decree creates an autonomous Polish Army, subject to the French Supreme Command, but fighting under the Polish flag. The Poles serving in the French Army will form the nucleus of the new Army.

FRENCH CHAMBER'S SECRET SESSION.

PARIS, June 5th.
The Chamber has concluded a three days' secret debate on M. Ribot's speech on the subject of Stockholm.

The Chamber adopted by 483 votes to 55 a vote of confidence in the Government, recalling the solemn protest of the Alsations at Bordeaux in 1871, affirming the necessity for the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine to France.

NATION'S ECONOMY IN CEREALS.

LONDON, June 4th.
The National War Savings Committee announces that from the official reports so far received for the month of May by the Ministry of Food the national bread consumption has declined heavily during the past month. When the remainder of the figures are received it is anticipated they will show that the nation's economy in cereals has been heavier than was hoped, especially in view of the complete absence of potatoes.

SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

ALEXIEFF RESIGNS.

PETROGRAD, June 5th.
General Alexieff has resigned, and General Brusiloff has been appointed Generalissimo.

General Gurko replaces General Brusiloff on the South-Western Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

LONDON, June 4th.
In connection with the confused and conflicting news from Petrograd it is important to remember that there is no censorship; hence all sorts of reports, with which Petrograd is filled, and which in the present constantly changing conditions are unsuitable, may be cabled unhindered.

Reassuring features are M. Kerensky's reception by the armies and his speeches thereon. It is also a fact that the Peasants' Congress has shown itself strong against a separate peace and has overwhelmingly elected men like M. Kerensky to its executive, while the extremists, M. Gorky and M. Lenin, only polled a few votes.

On the other hand, reports from Cronstadt and regarding the economic situation are somewhat disquieting. Cronstadt is filled with extremists and visionaries and youthful chemistry students.

M. Lamanoff threatens to land sailors at Petrograd to overthrow the Government. The latter, however, is supported by the Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, and is determined not to flinch and is confident of gaining the upper hand.

WARSHIP CREWS' DEMANDS.

News from Petrograd continues to be confusing. The latest report is that Russian warships are en route to Petrograd in order that the crews may demand a re-election of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, which they allege consists too little of the bourgeoisie, and also the handing over of the Tsar.

BRAZIL'S EFFORT.

TO HELP THE ALLIES TO THE FULL.

LONDON, June 4th.
Reuter learns from an authoritative source that it is certain Brazil will utilise all her resources in the war.

With a population of twenty millions she can soon raise an Army which should prove of considerable assistance in the European war theatre.

As far as is known, 42 fine German ships have been seized in Brazil practically undamaged, and will be immediately placed at the disposal of the Allies.

THE SOCIALIST CONFERENCE. PATRIOTIC STAND BY SEAMEN'S UNION.

LONDON, June 4th.
The Executive of the National Seamen's and Firemen's Union has passed a resolution refusing to permit members to man any vessel conveying pacifists to Stockholm or to Petrograd unless they sign a guarantee that they will insist on restitution for the murder of Allied seamen and for the destruction of Allied ships by U-boats.

The Union has instructed Mr. Tom Mann to proceed to Petrograd to submit their views.

AIRMAN KILLED.

LONDON, June 4th.
It is officially announced that the airman, Captain Ball, who was previously reported missing, has been killed.

ALBANIAN INDEPENDENCE.

ROME, June 4th.
A proclamation was issued at Argiro Castle on June 3rd, establishing the independence and unity of all Albanians under an Italian Protectorate.

NORWEGIAN SHIPPING LOSSES.

LONDON, June 4th.
Forty-nine Norwegian ships, of a tonnage of 75,307, were sunk in May, and twenty-one lives were lost.

ADVANTAGES OF AMERICA'S WAR-ENTRY.

PARIS, June 4th.
Sir Edward Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty, in an interview published in the *Marin*, emphasised the immense naval advantages accruing from the entry of America into the war, enabling the use of tonnage which would be regulated so that there would be no longer any wastage of transports. Also, that America could secure the protection of transports on the Atlantic Ocean, as Great Britain had secured it in the Channel. Moreover, the Allies had practically controlled the food supplies which Germany might be able to obtain through neutrals, for they could now search all vessels. These possibilities were calculated to increase the Allies' confidence.

THE AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS.

MELBOURNE, June 4th.
The revised final count in the Federal elections gives the following results:—33 Nationalists (being Coalitionists under Mr. Hughes); and 32 Labourites, in the House of Representatives; and 24 Nationalists and 12 Labourites, in the Senate.

JAPANESE POLITICS.

NATIONAL COMMISSION TO BE ORGANISED.

TOKYO, June 4th.
After a meeting of the leaders of all political parties the Premier, Count Terauchi, informed the Cabinet that the leaders had agreed to preserve national unity in war time, and accordingly a National Commission, including the leaders, would be organised for the purpose of considering the carrying out of diplomatic measures and policies under the direction of the Emperor.

OBITUARY.

FOREIGN ADVISER TO JAPAN.

TOKYO, June 4th.
The death of Mr. William Henry Stone, Adviser to the Department of Communications, is announced.

CHINESE WEALTH IN HONGKONG AND THE STRAITS.

The Governor of Hongkong recently stated at a Legislative Council meeting that the Chinese community-owned four-fifths of the wealth of that Colony and paid 97 per cent. of the rates and taxes. Sir Frederick Lugard made use of a similar statement, but a Hongkong paper is unable to find any official authority for the statement. We doubt (says "Topicist" in the *Singapore Free Press*) if any authority exists. Even Governors are not exempt from the fatal habit—fatal to logic of making unverified assertions. The Topicist begs to say that, as regards the Straits Settlements Loan, the Chinese subscriptions are insignificant compared with the total. The money has come from others, as the published figures of subscribers show. So that, if the wealth of the Chinese in the Straits is in the same proportion as Hongkong, they conceal it pretty well, and the Collector-General of War Tax has a harder job than he thinks.

CUNARD COMPANY MAKE A PROFIT OF £2,500,000.

A profit of £2,500,000 was made by the Cunard Company in their last financial year. This sum includes £183,088 brought forward from 1915; but, on the other hand, provision was made for a further reserve for contingent liabilities arising out of the war.

After debiting income-tax and debenture interest and reserving £1,470,177 for depreciation of ships, etc., there remains at the credit of the profit and loss account £303,554. Ten per cent. is to be paid on the ordinary shares, with a bonus of 5 per cent. to be paid in War Loan Stock.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

THE REVOLT IN CHINA.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT FORMED.

SHANGHAI, June 4th.
After a conference, the militarists formed a Provisional Government consisting of Hsu Shih-chang, who has held many offices of State, as Dictator, and Wang Shih-chien, at present Acting Premier, as Premier.

MILITARISTS IN CONTROL.

PEKING, June 4th.
The Central Government will henceforth be completely isolated, as the militarists have established a strict censorship of the telegraphs.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

PRESIDENT DESIROUS OF RESIGNING.

SHANGHAI, June 5th.
The President has wired to the Vice-President stating that he will resign, that the mandate of resignation is prepared, and that it is issued immediately if the Vice-President will go to Peking.

In consequence of Li King-shi's resignation the President has appointed Wang Shi-chien Premier.

Wang Shi-chien has visited the delegates at their Tientsin headquarters to consult them as to the procedure to be followed in connection with the President's resignation.

Chang Hwai-tzu's troops arrived at Tientsin yesterday.

EMPIRE TRADE AND SHIPPING.

There are signs that the seeds sown by the Dominions Royal Commission in their recently published report have not fallen on barren ground (says *The Times*), and more is likely to be heard before long of certain of the commercial recommendations. Among these is the proposal that legislation should be introduced on the lines of the Harter Act of the United States, the effect of which is to make it illegal for clauses to be inserted in bills of lading relieving shipowners from liability for loss or damage arising from negligence, fault, or failure in proper loading, stowage, custody, or delivery of merchandise. Legislation on similar lines has been passed in Canada, in Australia, and New Zealand. Some of the other questions—particularly those concerned with improved Imperial shipping services, although of immense interest to shipowners and merchants—are rather for the future than for the present.

For instance, during the war the proposal to build 18-knot steamers for the South African route to Australia is hardly likely to come within the region of practical politics. Even in normal times it would raise many questions, although probably, with the development of the turbine, issued of a commercial rather than a technical kind. An 18-knot steamer for a long voyage means a large ship with cargo space of sufficiently large earning capacity to offset all the space required for powerful engines and fuel. A very large ship involves long periods for loading and discharging, and these operations are complicated in the case of Australia by the numerous ports now visited by liners which would not be satisfied to be treated as, other than ports for ocean traffic. But the tendency before the war was to build larger and faster ships, and far-sighted owners undoubtedly look to see to the policy developed further after the war. The main question is one of finance.

NEW ZEALAND'S SHARE IN THE WAR.

The actual contribution of New Zealand in men to the armed forces of the Empire up to March 31st, taking into account the personnel of all the forces enrolled and paid by the Dominion, is 80,583, out of a population of 1,160,000, or 1 in 13. Of this total 62,216 have gone to the Main Expeditionary Force, and as reinforcements for that body. The Maories, now utilized as a pioneer unit, number 1,978. The Samoan Expeditionary Force has kept 2,000 men employed, and with other divisional troops, naval units, men sent to the Royal Flying Corps, hospital ship crews and staffs, and men in training, the total named is reached. Over 10,000 horses have been sent to the front and at present there are 639 in training camps in the Dominion.

Other New Zealand war figures are:—

War expenditure to March 31st	£23,580,000
Patriotic funds, over	2,500,000
Value of goods sent	215,000
Belgian Relief Fund	305,000
Government subsidy for Belgian relief	218,000
War pension payments	183,500
Liability on all pensions to date	245,000
Net pensions liability	270,000

THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH NAVIES.

It is a thrice-told tale, but it never loses anything in the re-telling, as Major-General Sir George Younghusband's "A Soldier's Memories," just published, gives it. A chapter is devoted to the Spanish-American War, and recalls how in Manila Bay Great Britain was represented only by a little second-class cruiser, the *Bonaventure*, under the command of Sir Edward Chichester.

The first international incident occurred when the German Fleet came sailing in with never a "with-your-leave" nor "by-your-leave." This did not seem to Admiral Dewey a very correct procedure in a blockaded port, but, as he said, he was not very well up in the etiquette of the ocean, so he semaphored across to his friend, Sir Edward Chichester, for advice. Sir Edward, a stout old sailor of the best old stock, immediately replied that undoubtedly the German Fleet had no right to be there, except by courtesy of the blockading fleet. The Germans had no sea manners, he added.

"What ought I to do?" asked Admiral Dewey.

"Fire across his bows," replied Sir Edward Chichester with great bluntness. In the course of two minutes whizz, bang, went a shot across the German's bows, and in an incredibly short space of time her fleet anchored hastily. Next was seen a steam pinnace, evidently in a great hurry, pushing off from the German admiral's flagship and surging towards the *Olympia*. In the pinnace were seated some very angry Germans. They were escorted courteously on board the *Olympia*, simply bursting with wrath, and with their feathers flying anyhow.

"Do you know, sir," exclaimed the infuriated German emissary, "that this action of yours might entail war with the great German Empire?"

"I am perfectly aware of the fact," replied Admiral Dewey with great coolness and composure. Then, hospitably invited his guests to assume their wrath with a cocktail or a mint julep.

But the German was not to be pacified with a cocktail, or even a mint julep, and flounced himself off to report the matter to Wilhelm II.

"And do you know," said Admiral Dewey to us, "I'd never have risked it if it hadn't been for that little British cruiser representing the British Fleet, as my 'hook'."

General Younghusband also gives an admirable version of that other incident when the Germans were so angry and so bent on mischief that they actually asked Sir Edward Chichester what he would do in the event of their trying to stop the Americans from bombarding Manila. What were his intentions? "Those gentlemen," said Sir Edward, "are known only to Admiral Dewey and myself."

The final touch came when the fatal morn'g had arrived. All foreign fleets were ordered to weigh anchor and clear the northward out of the line of fire before 10 a.m. Each in its turn up-anchored and cleared away, till last of all, and alone, was left H.M.S. *Bonaventure*. Very slowly, and with great deliberation, the *Bonaventure*, every glass in every fleet on her, hauled up her anchor. Dead slow she followed the foreign fleets for a short and calculated distance, then slowly turned, and, making a wide, deliberate sweep, she came back and anchored alongside the American Fleet. Could the highest diplomacy do more? The Americans evidently thought not, for as the little *Bonaventure* passed along one huge cheer went up from every American ship. —*L. and C. Express.*

A ROYAL SPORTSMAN.

NEAR ST. QUENTIN, 1917.

Here stands the hunting-box of Wilhelm's son, And here the plumpest Hohenzollern drank With boon companions when the chase was done, Stepped in an atmosphere of beer and swank. Here on this ring-marked table we behold The mugs which late the royal roysterer drained While to the fond, admiring crowd he told The story of the triumphs he had gained.

But lo! there came a portent and a sign That he must cease his hunting of the boar, For larger game was not in Eitel's line, And from the distance came a lion's roar. The royal huntman rose in haste to flee From that fair paradise of sport and ease Towards another, safer line which he Had previously constructed in the rear.

But ere he went he swore a Prussian oath, That every neighbouring village should be made A place of desolation. Nothing loath, The servile henchmen instantly obeyed, No prayers nor tears might stay that ruthless strike; To hunt the boar might fill an idle need; But here to gaze on simple country folk, Homeless and weeping—that was sport indeed!

DEATH OF THE PIPER OF LOOS.

Alexander Macdonald, D.C.M., known as "The piper of Loos," has died in the Cottage Hospital at Cupar from appendicitis, aged 38. He joined the Black Watch eight years ago, and at Loos, in September, 1915, after he was shot down he played his comrades on to victory. His left leg was amputated above the knee, and since his discharge he had been working at a shoeing forge at Boness. Three weeks before his death he was married to Miss Annie Simpson, of Buchhaven.

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THERAPION No. 1
THERAPION No. 2
THERAPION No. 3

For functional troubles, delay, pain and those irregularities peculiar to the sex.

Prescribed by the highest French Medical authorities and superior to T. Mory, steel Drops and Penny Pills.

CHAPOTEAU, 1 rue Vivienne, Paris.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

 Tuesday, 12th June.—
9.15 p.m.—Bandman Opera Co., at the Theatre Royal—"The Happy Day."

 Tuesday, 21st July.—
Noon—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Property from the Liquidators of Messrs. J. & Co., at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammert.

 Monday, 13th Aug.—
3 p.m.—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Property at Sales Rooms, by Messrs. Hughes & Hough.

 Monday, 27th Aug.—
Noon—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Property from the Liquidators of Messrs. Witke & Co., at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammert.

"ASAHI BEER."


 SOLE AGENTS:
MIITSU BUSSAN KAISHA.
TEL. No. 230 or 165.
POLAND:
A NEW KINGDOM.

CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT.

(BY DR. E. V. DILLON.)

[This series of articles was received in December, but could not then be published.]

Before the problem of the Poles can be solved in a sense favourable to them and their friends, their entire country must be reconquered. For without the power, the will is unavailing. Yet, oddly enough, even Russia's and the Allies' will has not yet been manifested as clearly and as fully as the present circumstances would seem to warrant and dictate. The Russians, even the most intelligent politicians among them, still shrink from committing themselves to principles, the working of which might subsequently clash with their national feelings, or shed the seed of discontent among their various nationalities. And those nationalities assume various guises, according to the parties that entertain them. An idea of these differences may be formed by a glance at the final cause of M. Sazonoff's withdrawal from the Cabinet.

M. Sazonoff, whose earnestness, veracity, intelligence, and plain dealing had endeared him to the hearts of all the Allied statesmen, perceiving the unique opportunity which the present war offered to his country, to set itself right with the progressive peoples of the world, and at the same time to deal a stunning blow to the enemy, advocated the emancipation of the Russian Poles, their union with their brethren of Austria and Prussia, and the formation of a free Polish State united to Russia under the sceptre of the Tsar. His project is described as ingenious and fair. It would have satisfied the demands of the Poles, and quieted the apprehensions of the Russians. It provided for a Polish Cabinet, the members of which would be responsible to the Polish Parliament. And this clause, contributed materially to wreck the scheme, and terminate the Ministerial career of its author. The Government, it is alleged, was revolutionary and anti-national, and Sazonoff's services were dispensed with.

That incident gives one a glimpse of the party objections to Polish independence. But there is also a strong feeling, shared, one may say, by all Russians, against what is termed the internationalisation of Poland's status in the new ordering of European affairs. The contention is that, however keen the interest felt by other nations in the destinies of the Poles, these must be moulded by Russia alone without any pressure or influence from without. It is a domestic concern of the Tsar, and Europe must be content to let it be treated as such. For no country would be so profoundly affected as Russia by the formation of a new Slav State in Northern Europe. If that new State chose to display its gratitude towards its benefactor after the manner of Greece or Bulgaria, it is Russia's task that would receive the trenchant stab.

INTERNATIONAL ASPECT.

To that thesis there is an answer that patriotic bias may repudiate but reason cannot shrug aside. One of the objections relied upon by Russia and her Allies against the erection of an independent Polish Kingdom by the Central Empires—an objection which vitiate, and nullifies their recent act—is that the formation of a new State is an international concern, which cannot be undertaken by one or two interested Powers. The same theory was pleaded by Russia against the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and an international Congress was demanded. The Austrian Government at that time empowered me to define its point of view as follows: "Without impugning the general principle, we can only consent to the contention that it is not applicable to a purely formal act which only consecrates a state of things that has existed for nearly a generation with the unanimous consent of Europe." Consequently, the conditions that render an international sanction indispensable are clearly understood, and have been hitherto universally recognised by all European States. And in the case of Poland those conditions state as in the face. Further, ever since the occupation of Russian Poland by the enemy, the international character of all the problems relating to that country and its people has been more and more accentuated. The circumstance that almost all the territory inhabited by the Poles is now in possession of Germany and Austria would of itself have sufficed to change the bearings of the issues and invest them with a European character from the point of view of the law of nations. In view of this law, unless the interests of Poland within the frontiers now held by the Central Empires is settled by them—and this can happen only if they crush the Allies sufficiently to enable them to assume the overlordship of Europe—it must be settled not by Russia alone, nor even by Russia, Austria, and Germany, but by all the Allies conjointly with their present adversaries. The latter would then have either to accept or to resign themselves to the decision of the Congress.

So long as Russia was in possession of the Polish provinces, it was open to her to alter the political and other conditions of the inhabitants in accordance with her interests, her principles, or her whims, provided that the modifications contemplated were confined within the limits of her own frontiers. But from the moment when she undertook to effect a change involving the partial dismemberment of the Central Empires—and that would be a consequence of the Grand Duke Nicholas' Manifesto and of the declaration of M. Trepoff—the scheme assumed a European aspect. For it affects the equilibrium of the whole Continent and would be sanctioned by all the Great Powers. But setting aside for a moment international law and putting the matter on the low ground of a "scrap of paper," we find ourselves forced to the same conclusion. For suppose the fortune of war places the Tsardom in a position to renege her promise to the Poles of the three Empires. That promise is a necessary condition of the Polish provinces, and this surrender must be ratified by a treaty. Between what Powers will that diplomatic instrument be drawn up? Between Prussia and Austria on the one side, and what States on the other? Certainly not Russia alone. The Pact of London would veto that. No separate peace treaty is conceivable so long as that covenant holds good, and it is good down to the conclusion of the peace treaty. Therefore all the Allies would deal with all their adversaries.

THE BREAKWATER.

It is further worth observing that, whatever else may be predicated of the war aims of the Allies, they constitute the common ends towards which their combined resources are being perseveringly bent. None of the partners is endeavouring single-handed to secure the territorial or other guarantees which he deems indispensable to his national well-being. Common effort is directed to common objects. That being so, the recovery and the future of Poland is a common and therefore an international concern. Lastly, it is worth observing that, independently of all those considerations, the pressure of necessity excludes freedom of choice. One of the indispensable safeguards of that future peace on which the safety of Europe will depend is the establishment of strong frontiers which lie in the north and in the south to bar the Teutons' road to Constantinople and the Black Sea. In the south a reconstituted and enlarged Serbia would discharge the function, while a united and independent Poland would be equal to the task in the north. For centuries the successive Teuton waves rolling eastward dashed themselves to spray against the solid Polish wall. Nor was it until that breakwater was pulled down that Prussia thrived, and Germany, and all became nuisances enough to lord it over Europe. There world, perhaps, have been no world-war today if independent Poland had remained a Baltic Power, possessed of a fleet in the Gulf of Danzig, and of a country traversed by a network of strategic railways.

The peremptory fore-condition of a fair and durable peace, then, is the equilibrium of Europe on a solid natural basis, and that presupposes the reconstitution of Belgium, Serbia, and Poland, and the bestowal on each of all the agencies needed for the development of its manifold energies, and for the utilisation of its collective forces. That the Allies should have failed to seize this necessity earlier, or having perceived it should have lacked the grit to recognise it practically, is one of their many fateful oversights.

The Germans displayed keener vision and greater will-power. They seized their opportunity in Poland, and, making the most of it, and Count Revettlow, dealing with the broader issues of European equilibrium to which the Polish problem—if we have the solution of it—must be a piece with its conception. Even when pursuing as their ultimate aim some secondary national interest, those Powers showed themselves in capable of pressing with steady energy in the chosen direction. And their objects, if attained, were unfitted to give satisfaction to the deeper elements of human nature or to the material needs of the political community. Applied to the maintenance of the balance of Europe, the uniform tendency of their policy was to defeat its own avowed object. For little by little the whole of Eastern Europe fell out of the sphere of their activity, and the onrush of the German wave met with no serious resistance. Among the landmarks of this period of somnolence were the Baghdad Railway scheme, Britain's indifference to the Balkans, her estrangement from Turkey, her trust in Germany, the Russo-German accord about Persia, the persecution of the Jews in the East, and the wanton oppression of the Poles. Russia in official embittered all those elements of her alien population from which the most efficacious help against the Teuton might have been anticipated and secured—the Jews, who are the most enterprising and successful propagandists of the new as of the ancient world, and the Poles, whose fiery enthusiasm for lofty political ideals and chivalrous loyalty to the progressive Powers are proverbial. And hand in hand with this blind destruction of valuable assets went the systematic endorsement of Teutonism at Court, in the Government, in the schools, in the Press, in finance, industry, and commerce. One of the most amazing symptoms of this phenomenon was the agglomeration in the city of Lodz, on the Polish frontier, of 200,000 Germans, who were allowed their Prussian schools, their rifle ranges, their national theatres, their political propaganda, and their military drill.

The work thus inaugurated by our Allies was completed by our enemies, Germany, having seized Poland, accomplished for the Poles more than Russia had ever promised, and did it with the help of Russia's Prime Minister. Into the motives that determined the action of one Empire and the hesitancy of the other the stricken populations show no desire to pry. The standard by which they judge is not the type of Constitution offered them, nor the particular international status accorded to their country, but a comparison between the material conditions of life and the facilities for bettering them indefinitely under the two Empires.

ECONOMIC BRIBERY.

Germany's constructive work may be material, but it commends itself to nations, harassed by war and yearning for repose. Economic organisation in peace and effective protection against the horrors of invasion are not high ideals, but they have their attractions for people, some of whose villages have been visited and bomb-ploughed nine times in the course of a twelvemonth by the contending armies. And Germany can now give them the assurance, which they have no reason to doubt, that with her they are safe from invasion in future wars as all her allies have been in this. Fine broad roads, a dense network of useful railways and waterways, industrial and commercial banks dispensing cheap credit, steam ploughs, and other up-to-date implements for agriculture, industries organised scientifically, lucrative foreign markets, ample educational equipment, and the road open to talent and effort are among the benefits she offers to all. It is by these bonds that the Germans hold the Turks, the Bulgars, the Rumanians, the Serbs, the Poles, the Czechs, the Roumanians, and the Venetian Greeks. Those advantages were more than outweighed in the eyes of highly-strung peoples like the Poles by the odious measures adopted to strip these races of their nationality and Germanise them, or, failing that, to drive them from their hearths and homes and distribute their land among Prussians. That was the Achilles' tendon of militant Teutonism. And so long as this system is maintained it must continue to defeat the purpose for which it was devised.

It looks, however, as though a breach had already been made in the wall of Pan-Germanism by the line of action taken by the Government in the "Kingdom of Poland," where the Polish language has now official rank and a Polish university is receiving State endowment. And, lastly, I have some grounds for believing that Germany's cleverest and most supple statesman, Prince von Bulow, who will play the leading part in the future Peace Congress, is already turning over some project of conciliation in his mind. This project of the most formidable dangers with which the Allies can be confronted outside the sphere of military operations.

It may, however, be deemed, if not wholly dispelled, by prompt and vigorous action on the part of the Allies. A joint declaration that they are minded to realise to the fullest the national aspiration of the Polish as well as of the other small nations would take the wind out of the German sails, remove the blot on the Allies' escutcheon, and cut the ground from under those Germanophile Poles who tamingly and truthfully say that Germany has actually done for them more than Russia has promised. It would also soften the hearts and numb the arms of the million Poles and Lithuanians who are about to fight the Tsardom, and it would rally the entire Polish people around the Allies for all time.

The national aspirations which we should bind ourselves to satisfy are tolerably well-known, and if we reflect on the alternative to this course our decision will be taken promptly. Unity and independence are the principal requirements of the Poles, and their corollary is the bestowal of adequate means of developing the nation's moral and economic resources. In the matter of frontiers the Allies, if they ever have the power to delimitate these, should, in their own as well as in Poland's interest, display more than their wonted generosity. Without an outlet to the sea, such as Danzig would afford the new Polish State could not long survive. That guarantee should be insisted upon by the Allies as natural, and a military convention with Russia, coupled with a naval convention with Britain and France, would be at once indispensable and adequate.—Daily Telegraph.

DASH FROM GERMAN TRAIN.

BRITISH OFFICERS' ESCAPE FROM GERMANY.

Lieutenant Bertram Ratcliffe, West Yorks Regiment, after two and a half years in Bavaria, has escaped and arrived in England. He made a dash for liberty with four fellow-officers from a German train.

"As it was just on dusk," he said, "we felt the moment had come to try our luck. Few people were about, but one of them was evidently too attracted at the sight to do anything. A few gave chase, but we soon outdistanced them. After a heavy tramp over ploughed fields the party got clear away. The only food we had," Lieutenant Ratcliffe said, "was a tin of chocolate with a few biscuits, but we were too keen on regaining our liberty to worry much about eating, though we were hungry enough before we reached safety."

"Thirst was worse than the hunger. We had nothing to drink and dare not ask for anything. At night we slept in a wood. It was freezing, and the only covering we had was a British 'warrior' (officer's short great-coat) wrapped round us." During his long captivity in a German fort enemy officers often cross-examined him about the war. "They were very anxious to know how long we thought the war would last. They seemed to think it would be over in three months. But we always said, 'Oh, another year or two, in a unanimous sort of way.'"

Lieutenant Ratcliffe, who is now 24, was at Harrow and Sandhurst and joined the Army the year before the war.

WOMEN'S WORK ON MUNITIONS.

EFFICIENCY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS.

The exhibition of women's work at the Royal Colonial Institute will bring home to manufacturers, engineers, foremen and tradesmen the magnitude of the field now covered by women labour. The exhibits include parts for internal combustion engines; aeroplane engines of the rotary, vee and vertical types; magnetos, sparking plugs and accessories; aeroplane fittings and woodwork; tool-room work; guns and gun components; small arms and machine-gun parts; optical work; medical and surgical apparatus; welfare types of overalls, suits and clothing for special industries; light body armour and steel helmets; while those classes of munition work with which women labour is nominally associated—shot, shells, fuses, mines, grenades and bombs—are also represented. The range of processes and occupations involved in the production of the parts shown is so wide that it may be said to cover all branches of the engineering trade—mechanical, electrical and chemical.

In the speech made by Mr. Kellaway at the opening of the exhibition the magnitude of the work done since the Ministry of Munitions was established in May, 1915, was shown by data of increase in output as follows:—18-pounder guns, 23 times; machine guns, 27 times; 4.5-inch howitzers, 52 times; high explosives, 70 times; medium guns and howitzers, 71 times; and heavy howitzers above 6-in., 423 times.

The manner in which these results have been brought about is more striking when it is noted that of the men engaged in the trades concerned, at least 25 per cent. have joined the army, says *Engineering*. In July, 1914, the women munition workers numbered 221,000; in January, 1917, their number had increased to 691,000, and even this figure is now probably greatly exceeded. The utilization of this army of labour, however, would not have been possible, as Mr. Kellaway points out, had it not been for the co-operation of the employers as well as of the working men with whom these women had to work. The co-ordination of this work, effected by the efficient officers of the Ministry, also received graceful recognition.

A BATTLESHIP BY WOMEN'S LABOUR. Mr. Kellaway quotes that "a prominent engineer has expressed his firm conviction that given two more years of war, he would undertake to build a battleship from keel to aerial in all its complex detail entirely by women labour." Those who see the work at the present exhibition and realize that it is only a minute fraction of what could be brought together by the technical section of the Ministry, had they the space requisite, will perhaps appreciate that the idea is neither fantastic nor a vision of Jules Verne or H. G. Wells. The women who are trained for the trapeze can find per position at the giddy heights of a Scotch crane, and the girl who is proficient at dancing is well equipped for undertaking work involving movement of position. The Ministry has found cases where these specialized abilities have been successfully applied to industry.

Only a small modification of the gear of the heavy forging press or of the appliances in the moulding shop would be necessary to decrease the muscular effort required by one-half and to increase the distance of the operator from the hot metal or furnace by the equivalent. There are, in fact, some operations in the smith's and press shops in which the aptitude of women for correct appreciation of time intervals shows to great advantage. The motion study has been a favourite subject with American factory organization experts for several years, and the sequence of movements made by the operator is a theme which would bear careful investigation. This sense and its influence on industrial processes was alluded to by Jules Verne some thirty years ago in "The Begum's Fortune" to-day, by the aid of the cinematograph, it can be investigated on a scientific basis. It is to be hoped that any further exhibition held under the auspices of the Ministry may be undertaken on a larger scale and supplemented by a series of films illustrating good examples of motion study, films which the photographic section of the Ministry should know best where and how to obtain.

PROFICIENCY QUICKLY ATTAINED. In the training of the army of women labour the part of the employer, the intermediary and workman has been recognized; it is, however, equally necessary to consider the effort of the individual women workers, for the results obtained from their labour and the shortness of the time in which they arrive at proficiency have exceeded all expectation. This can be explained by various causes: some special to war conditions, such as patriotism, the personal factor involved by relations or others at the front, or the need of the pecuniary reward; or others special to the natural aptitude of a large majority of women for manual work and, last but not least, the special efforts made to train women labour by efficient methods.

The ordinary apprentice learns to file flat in the course of years of more or less close personal application. Many a woman worker can be taught to file as flat in less than one-tenth of the time, provided she is instructed by a really capable and painstaking demonstrator. Much is already known as to the methods of selection of labour, and some instances which appear quite anomalous have been investigated, for example, the selection of operators for rifle-barrel straightening is primarily by the colour of the eyes, grey or blue having been found to provide the highest percentage of efficient workers.

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For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to—

TEL. Nos. 744 and 745

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